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THE PROMETHEUM EXCHANGE PART 2 OF 3

# EXCALIBUR



WAGING WAR  
WITH THE

AVENGERS  
WEST COAST

50  
YEARS



CAPTAIN AMERICA

1941-1991

THE POWERFUL CAPTAIN BRITAIN, THE SHAPE-CHANGING MEGGAN, THE INTANGIBLE SHADOWCAT, THE SWASHBUCKLING NIGHTCRAWLER, THE MYSTERIOUS PHOENIX, THE EVER-UNPREDICTABLE WIDGET AND LOCKHEED THE DRAGON FORGED IN THE FIRES OF THEIR TRAGIC PASTS. THEY HAVE BANDED TOGETHER TO FIGHT A MODERN DAY CRUSADE AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL! EXCALIBUR

# EXCALIBUR



EXCALIBUR • Vol. 1, No. 38, June, 1991, (ISSN #1045-1366) Published by MARVEL COMICS. Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1991 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$1.75 per copy in the U.S. and \$2.25 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. \$21.00; Canada \$26.00; and foreign \$33.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. EXCALIBUR (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO EXCALIBUR, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 8TH FLOOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.

EH? I'VE BEEN WORKING WITH  
W.A.O.R. AND EXCALIBUR LONG  
ENOUGH TO RECOGNIZE A  
DIMENSIONAL GATEWAY!



I HAVE TO CONCEDE--  
THIS HAS WAITING  
BEAT, HANDS DOWN!

THE WEIRD HAPPENINGS ORGANIZATION -- T.K.

AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE  
OTHER-DIMENSIONAL  
WORLD ONCE KNOWN  
AS LIMBO...



MAYBE WE CAN  
TALK THIS OUT  
A BIT-- FIND  
A WAY TO  
BURY OUR  
DIFFERENCES?

I SAY  
THEE  
"NAY!"

ZUHNE

AND I SAY  
"DOUBLE  
NAY!"



MOMENTS AGO, DR. DOOM BATTLED  
EXCALIBUR FOR THE RIGHT TO STRIP-  
MINE THIS DIMENSION OF THE  
MAGICAL METAL KNOWN AS  
PROMETHIUM.

DOOM TROUTCHED  
THEM.

SEVERELY.

THEN HIS  
REINFORCEMENTS  
ARRIVED...

THE ONLY  
THING  
WHAT WE  
PLANS ON  
BURYIN'--

--IS  
YOUSE!

WUHNUK

ZOUHNE

LAST ISSUE, OUR TIME -- T.K.



--MAGIC?

BEHOLD, AVENGERS OF THE WEST--  
JUST AS I FORESPOKE, ALREADY  
THE DESTRUCTION OF ENGLAND  
HAS BEGUN!

IT'S NOT AS THOUGH  
ANYONE DIDN'T BELIEVE  
YOU, LADY OF THE  
LAKE.

IT WAS THE  
ONLY REASON  
WE AGREED TO  
TRAVEL HALF-  
WAY AROUND THE  
WORLD VIA YOUR  
ELEMENTAL  
WATER POWERS

I HATE  
WATER!

AM I RIGHT  
IN ASSUMING  
YOU ARE AN  
INNOCENT  
BYSTANDER?

ACTUALLY, IT'S  
BEEN YEARS  
SINCE I'VE  
BEEN  
INNOCENT...

YOUR REPHSOR  
RAYS ARE  
USELESS, IRON  
MAN--

--THIS PORTAL  
ABSORBS ONLY  
MASS!

SAY NO  
MORE!  
TIGRA!

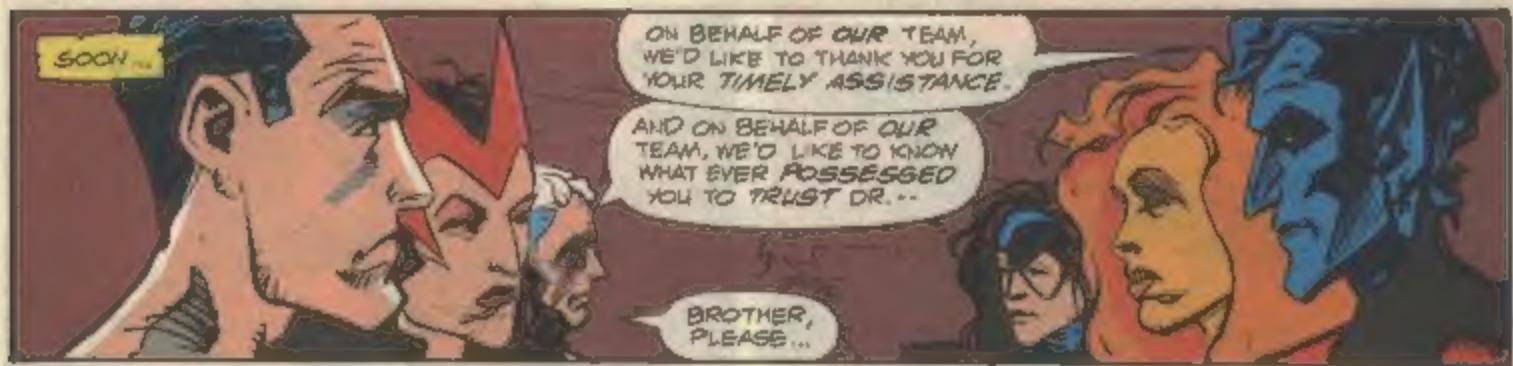
SEVERAL HUGE CHUNCS  
OF THE GREATER ISLE  
OF BRITAIN COMING  
RIGHT UP, WONDER MAN.

WITH ANY LUCK, WE'LL  
BE ABLE TO OVER-  
LOAD THE GATEWAY  
WITH TOO MUCH  
MASS AT ONE TIME!

AVENGERS MAKE  
THEIR OWN LUCK, IRON  
MAN... BETWEEN THE  
LADY'S MAGIC AND  
MY PROBABILITY-  
ALTERING HEX-  
SPHERE--

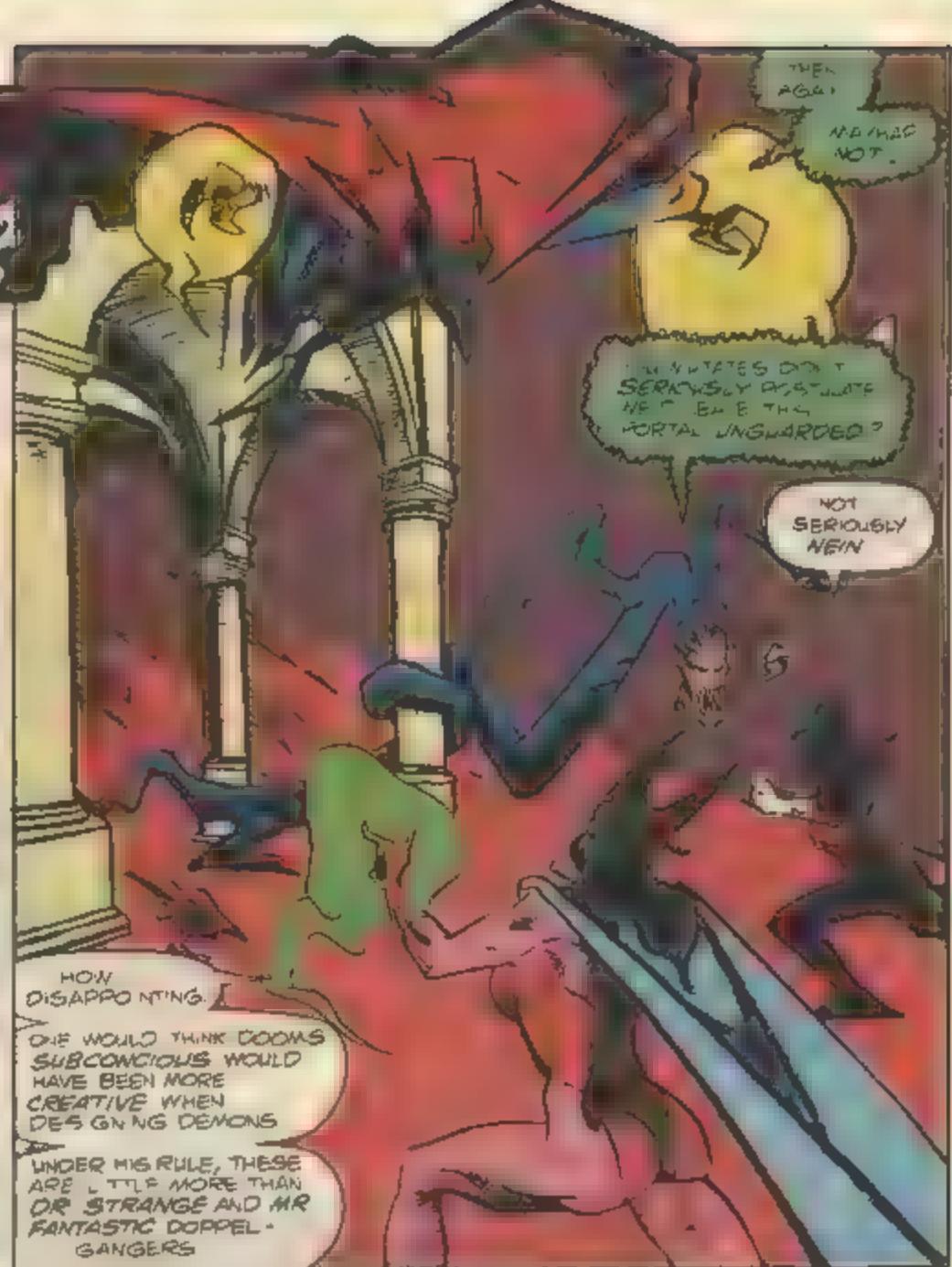














BY THE ETERNAL  
FRUSTRATION,  
SPEAK ENGL...UHNP

SORRY

I SAID "WOULD  
YOU LIKE TO  
DANCE WITH  
MY PARTNER?"

AND I REPLIED,  
"OKAY BY ME!"

WHAT ?!  
IT'S CALLED  
A HEX BOLT

IT CAUSES A ONE-  
IN-A-MILLION  
CHANCE TO ACTUALLY  
HAPPEN

EXAMPLE, WHAT DO  
YOU THINK THE ODDS  
ARE THAT YOUR BODY  
WOULD SNAP LIKE A  
RUBBER BAND?

## MEGGAN AND IRON MAN

IRON MAN - ARE THOSE  
DEMONS BASED ON ANY-  
ONE IN PARTICULAR?

YOU DON'T GET  
OUT MUCH DO  
YOU MAM?

NOW ONE  
MORE HEX  
BOLT TO  
DESTROY  
THE PORTAL

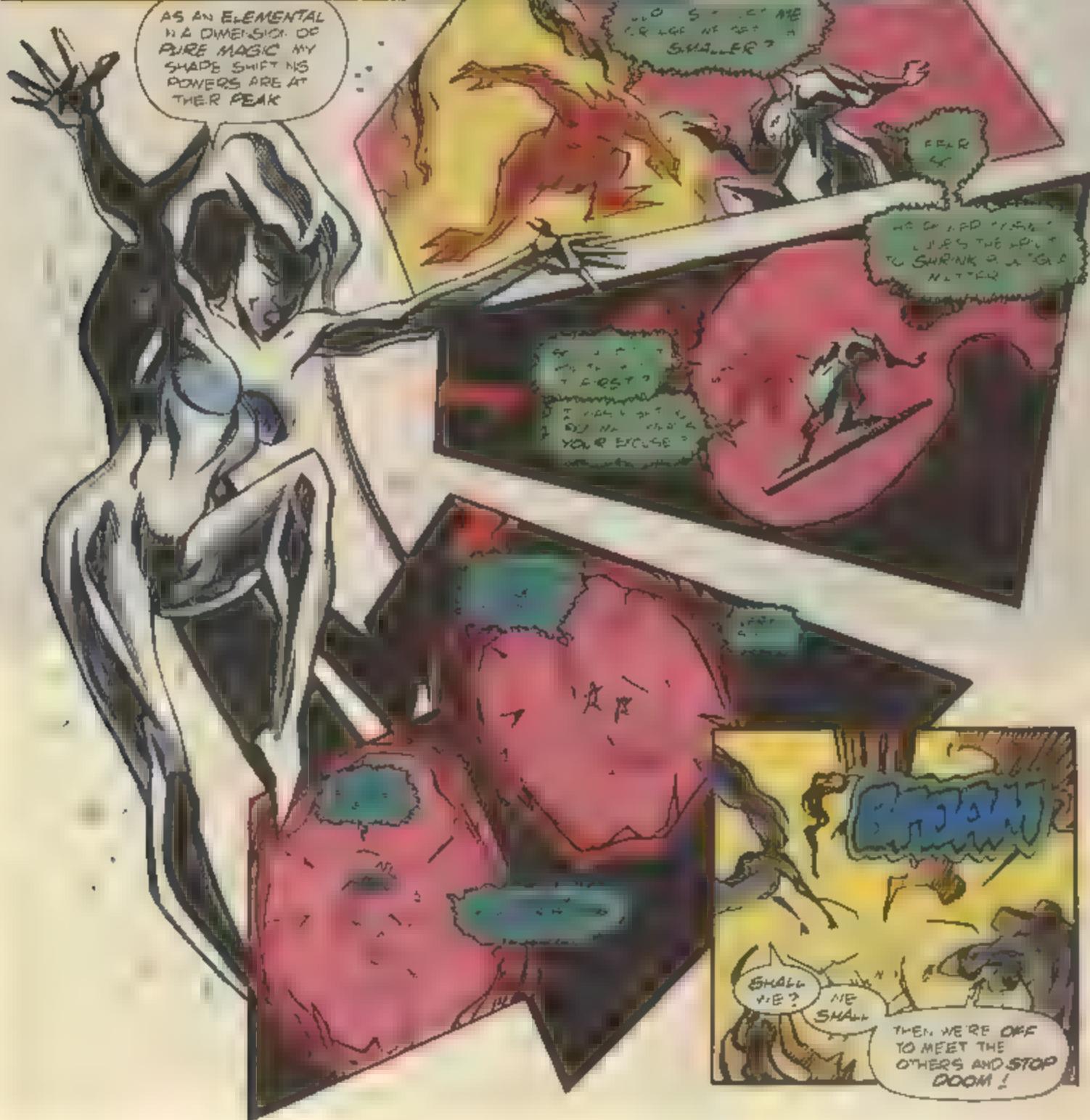
AND  
WE'RE  
OFF

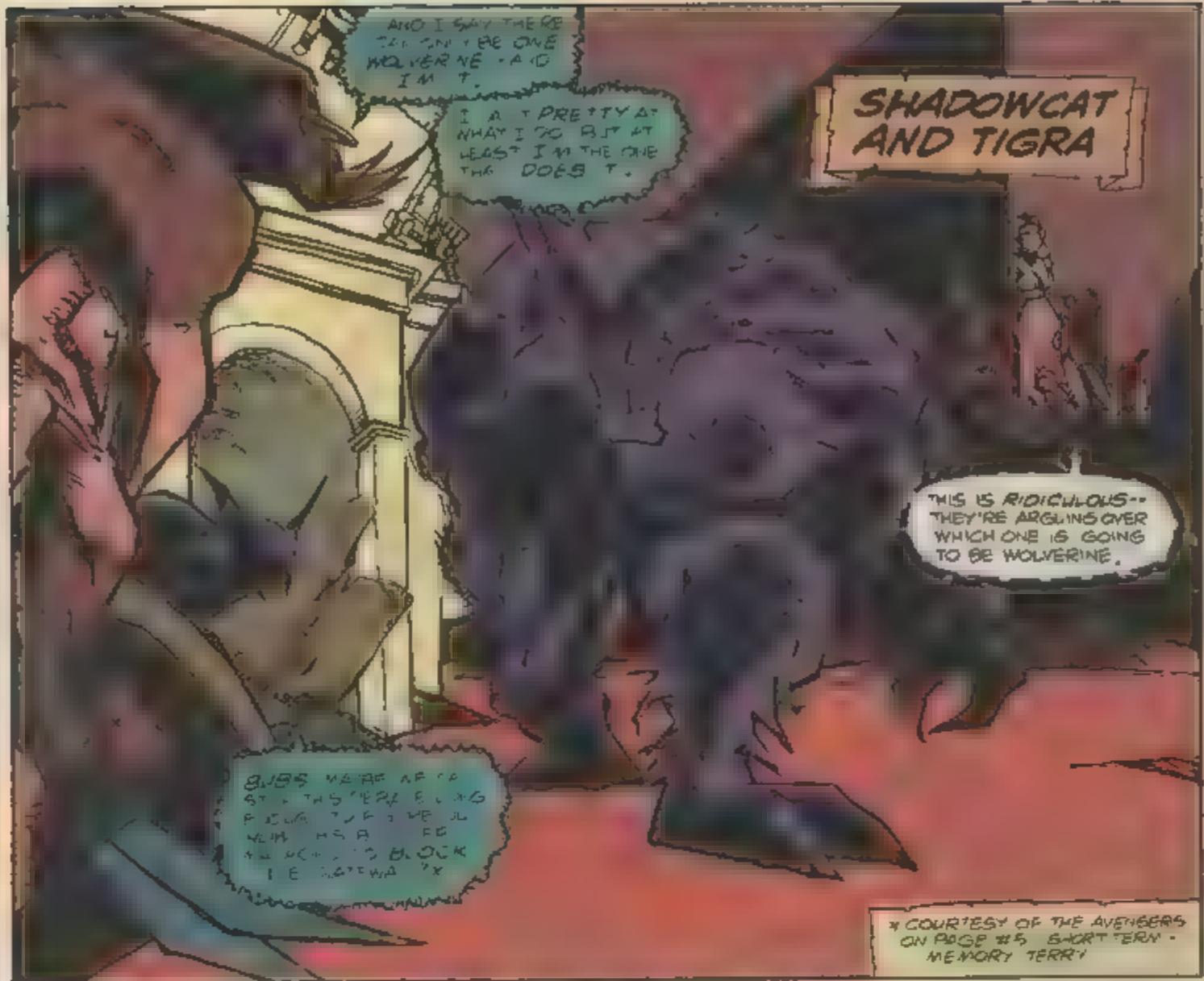
LET'S PRAY  
THE OTHERS  
ARE FARING  
AS WELL

DON'T BOTHER MEMORIZING  
THEIR NAMES, MEGGAN... IN  
A MOMENT, THEY'LL BE  
NOTHING MORE THAN A BAD  
SET OF MEMORIES.

I'M THE HUMAN  
TORCH AND MY  
FRIEND HERE IS  
THE SILVER  
SURFER

WE HAVE TO TAKE  
THESE TWO OUT  
QUICKLY AND DESTROY  
THAT PORTAL BEFORE  
ALL OF ENGLAND'S  
PULLED THROUGH  
INTO HERE!





I KNEW  
WOLVERINE

WOLVERINE WAS A  
PERSONAL FRIEND  
OF MINE

AND YOU  
ARE NO  
WOLVERINE!

OR YOU WOULD HAVE  
PREPARED YOURSELF  
AGAINST THESE  
NINJA TECHNIQUES  
HE TAUGHT ME

THEY  
ARE BARRAS?

I'M GLAD  
TO HEAR  
YOU SAY  
THAT  
I THOUGHT  
T WAS  
JUST ME.

HAVE TO TIME  
THIS JUST RIGHT--  
KEEP HIM PHASED  
UP UNTIL THE  
MOMENT OF  
IMPACT

TIGRA!  
CHUCK THEM  
OVER HERE!

CLEVER, KID-- YOU  
PHASED THEM ALL  
INTO ONE GIANT  
BALL!

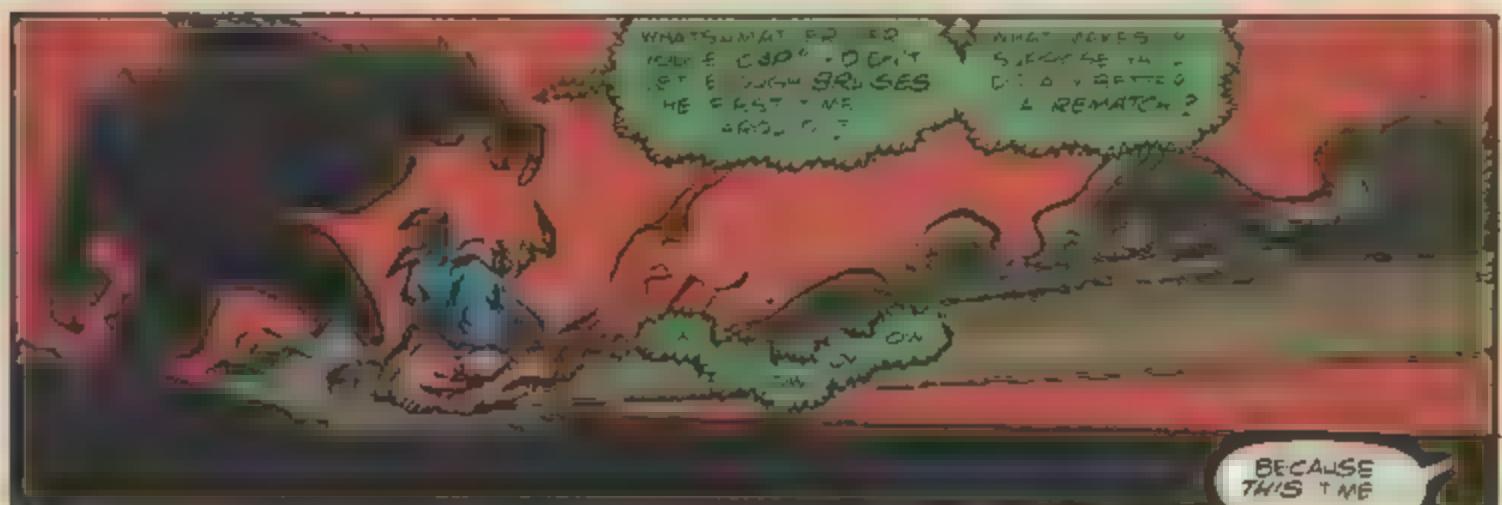
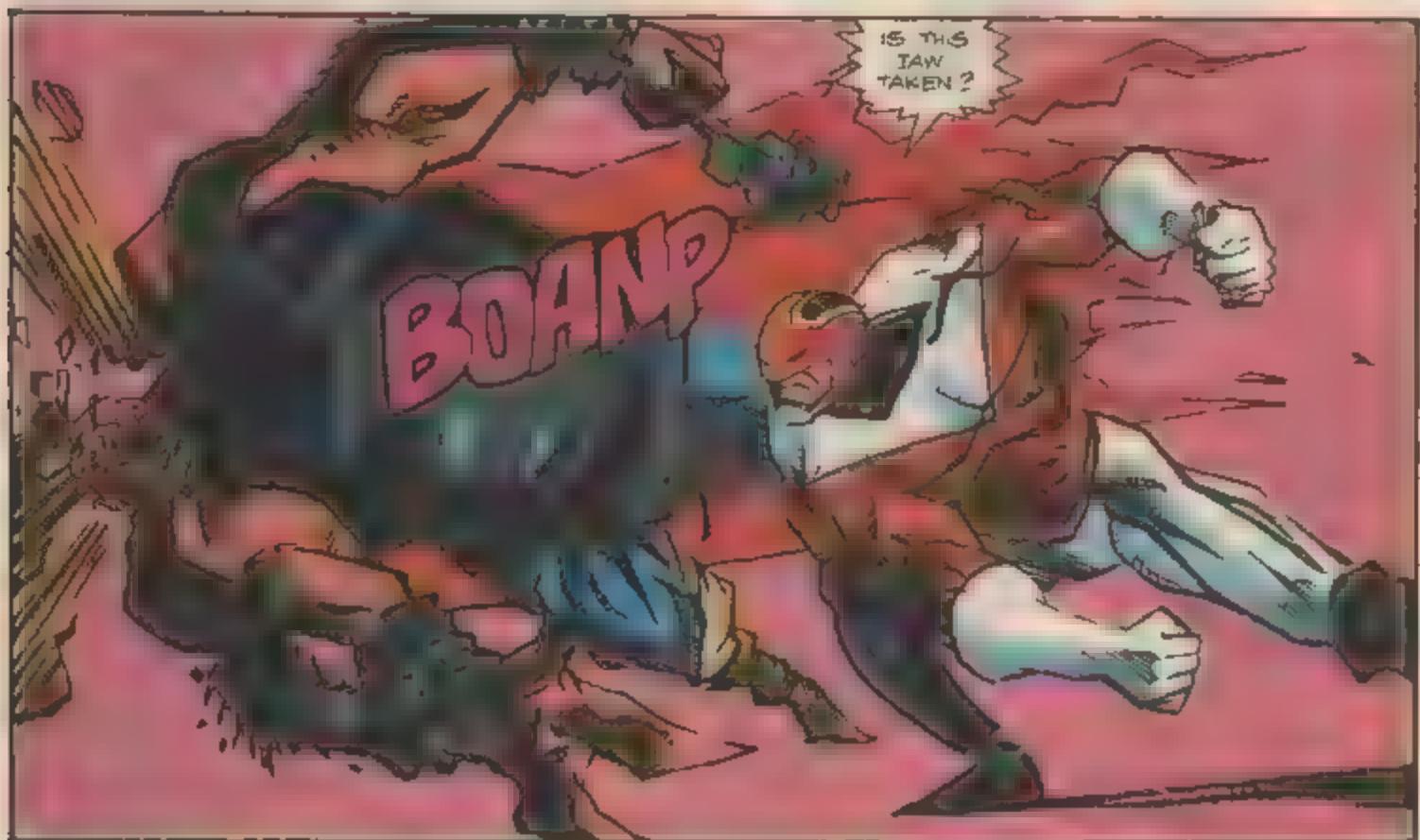
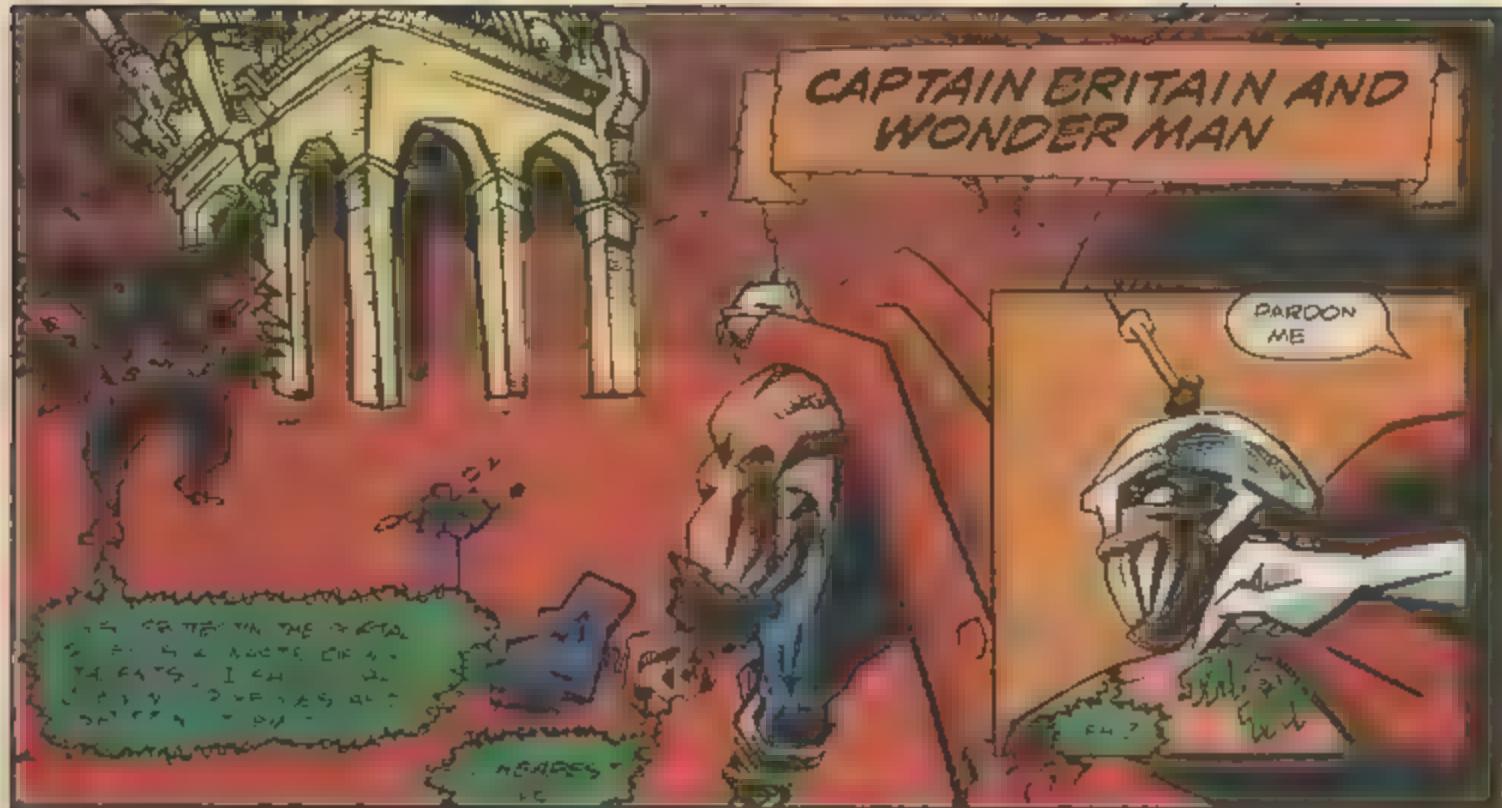
AND SINCE NO TWO  
OBJECTS CAN EXIST  
IN THE SAME PLACE  
AT THE SAME TIME

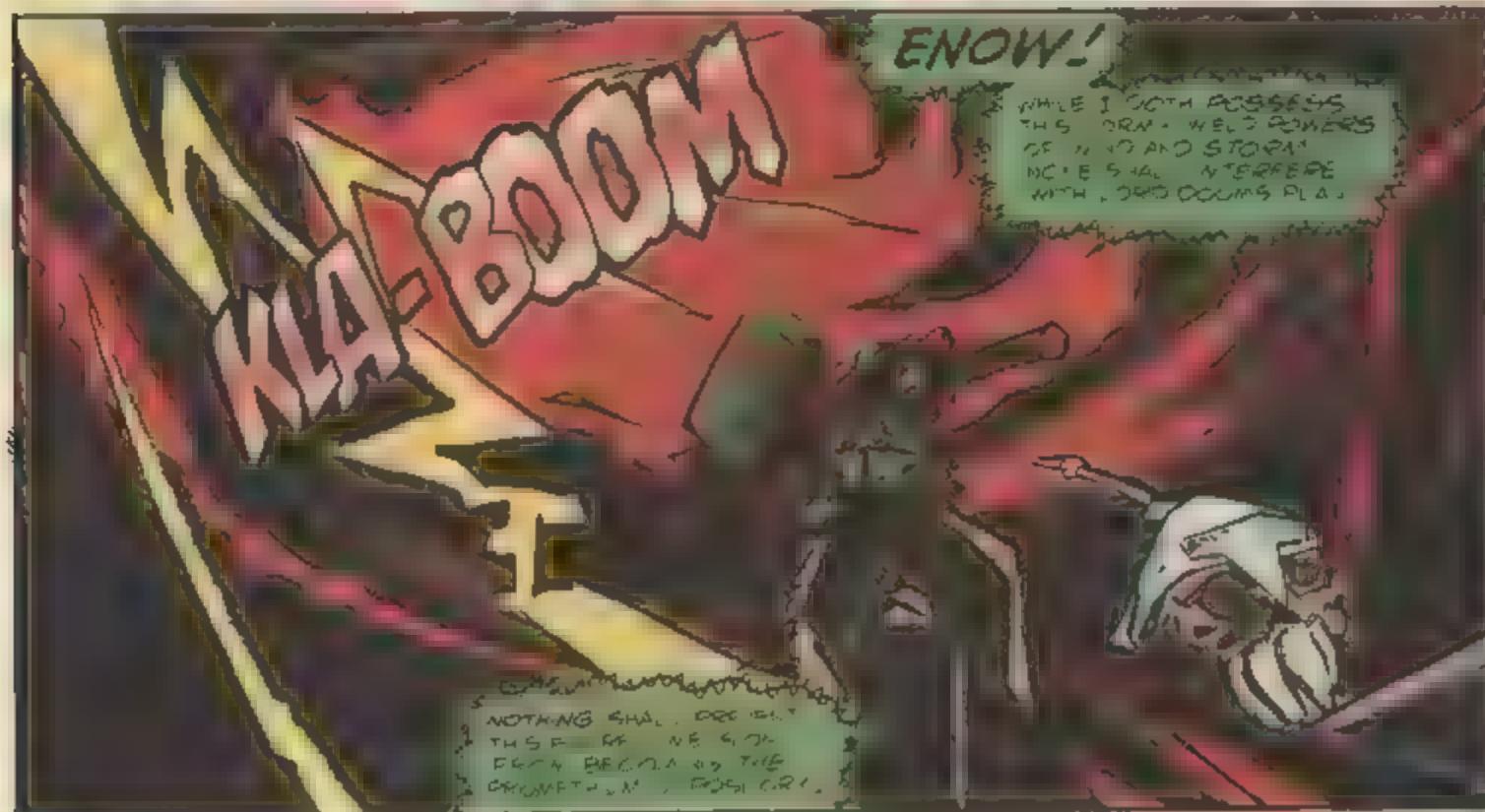
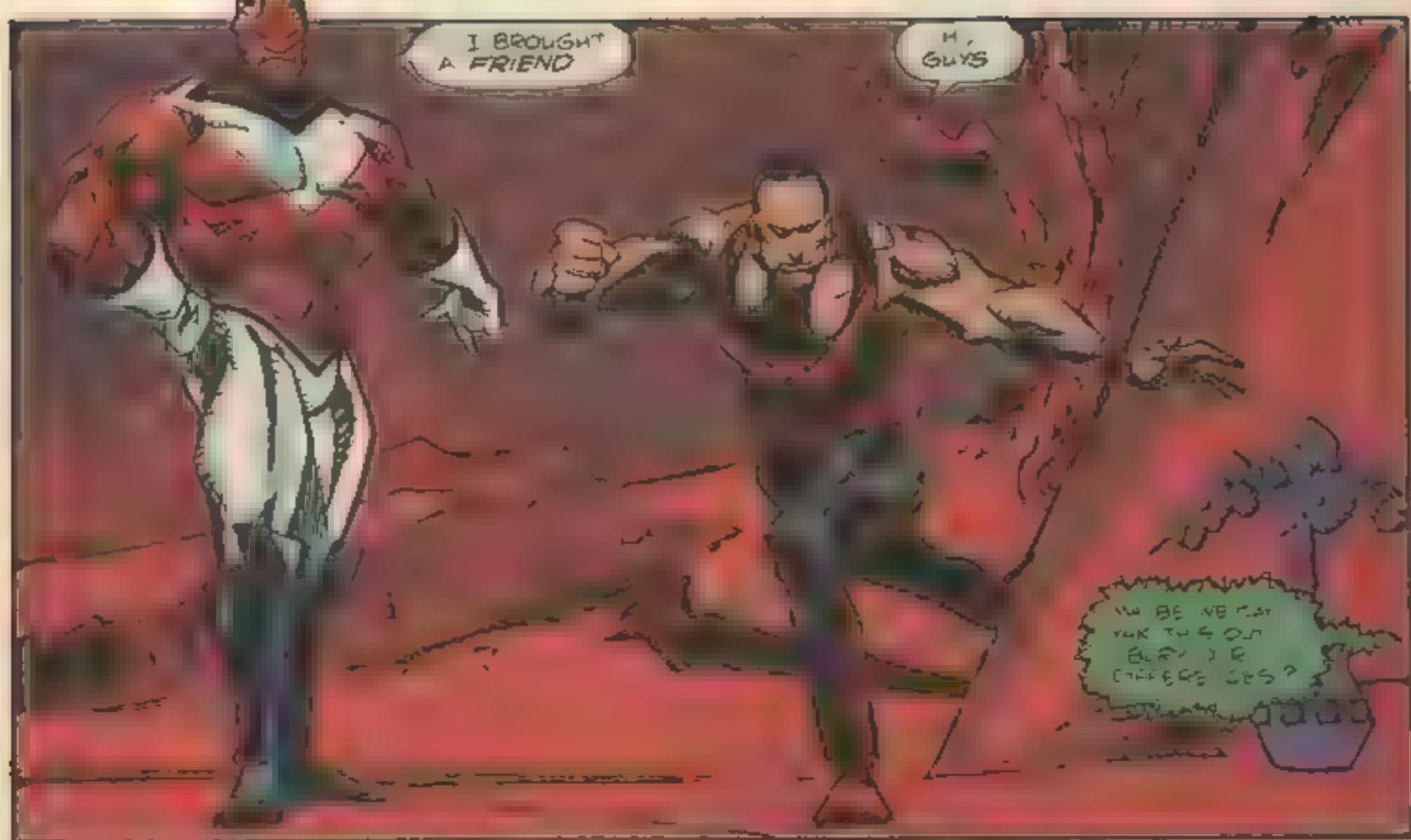
DUCK?

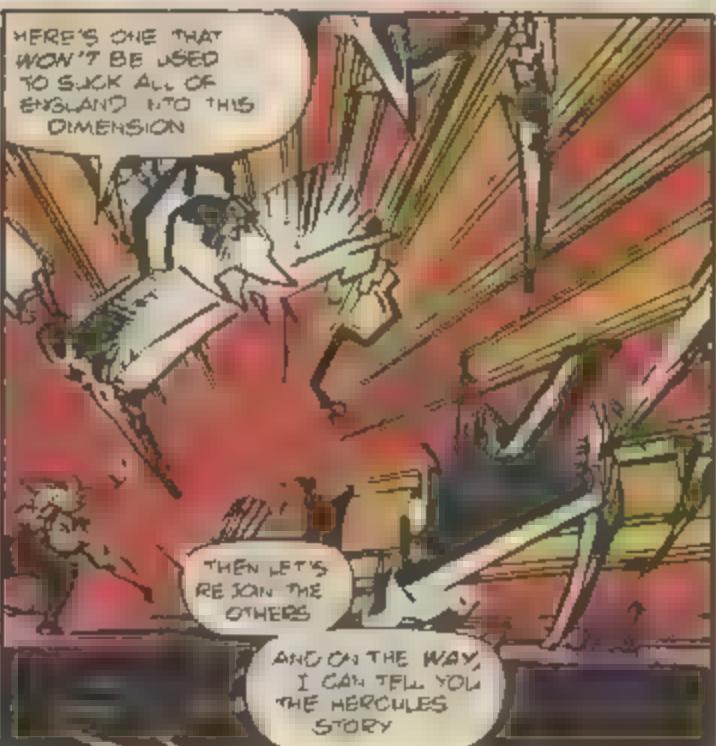
DUCK!

WICK  
**SKBLAoom!**

## CAPTAIN BRITAIN AND WONDER MAN







AND ON THE WAY,  
I CAN TELL YOU  
THE HERCULES  
STORY

## PHOENIX AND QUICKSILVER

I THINK WE  
LUCKED OUT,  
QUICKSILVER...

SPARRING  
WITH THE TWO  
LAMEST  
DEMONS IN  
THIS DIMENSION

SO IT  
WOULD  
APPEAR...

THAT WAS SIMPLE  
ENOUGH. ALL I HAD  
TO DO WAS USE MY  
PSI-POWER TO  
MAKE HIM THINK HE  
WAS ZAPPING ME...

WHEN HE WAS  
ACTUALLY FRYING  
THE BRAIN OF HIS  
FELLOW DEMON.

A PROFESSOR  
WHO  
POSSESSESSES  
MORE MASS  
THAN MIND...

--AND AN  
"INVISIBLE"  
WOMAN WHO  
IS TRANSLUCENT  
AT BEST

AS SIMPLICITY  
IS THE ORDER  
OF THE DAY...

I WILL DISPATCH  
THIS DEMON  
WITH ALL DUE  
HASTE

TO THE ADD  
WHAT HE IS AS A GIFT  
A GIFT OF LOVE  
TO GIVE

CONFIDENT  
LOVING  
YOU

WE COULD  
HAVE PHONED  
THIS BATTLE

THOUGH I  
WONDER WHAT  
AT&T WOULD  
CHARGE--



THEN I  
SUGGEST  
YOU DO IT  
QUICKLY

IN MOMENTS I SHALL  
PLUNGE THE MAGICAL  
SOULSWORD INTO THE  
VERY HEART OF THIS  
DIMENSION.

EVERY GRAIN OF  
SAND -- EVERY  
LIVING CREATURE  
NATIVE TO  
OTHERPLACE --  
WILL REVERT TO  
ITS NATURAL  
STATE OF  
PROMETHIUM.

IRONIC, ISN'T IT?  
THE DEATH OF ONE  
DIMENSION WILL  
HERALD THE BIRTH  
OF A NEW ERA FOR  
ANOTHER.

FOR AS SOLE POSSESSOR  
OF THE PROMETHIUM, IT  
WILL ONLY BE A MATTER  
OF TIME BEFORE I AT  
LAST REIGN SUPREME  
OVER ALL OF EARTH.

...THERE IS MUCH  
I DARE, DEMON...

...OF WHICH TURNING  
MY BACK ON YOU IS  
THE LEAST.

...YOU THOUGHT  
PERHAPS  
I WAS...  
EXAGGERATING?

# SKBA-BA-BLAM

IT'S OVER,  
DOOM--

--THE  
JIG  
IS UP!

ON THE  
CONTRARY...

IT IS A MOMENT  
OF TERROR...

...AS A HANDFUL OF THE  
WORLD'S MIGHTIEST  
HEROES--

--REALIZE THEY ARE  
TOO LATE!

...THE "JIG" HAS  
ONLY JUST BEGUN!

CONCLUDES  
NEXT ISSUE

Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

### ...NO-PRIZE NEWSFLASH...

Now hear this, loyal Marveloids! With the dawn of a new decade, we've decided to revamp and update our policy on the awarding of those nifty no-prizes you hear mention of in many a Marvel mag. Henceforth, no-prizes will be awarded for one thing and one thing only — meritorious service to *Marvel* above and beyond the call of duty. What constitutes "meritorious service"? Lots of things could! Like sending a box of comics to the children's wing of a hospital. Or compiling a chronological cross-title index to a character's appearances. Or coming up with an explanation for a major discontinuity or discrepancy. Your imagination's the limit. So if you think spotting a misspelled word or a miscolored boot is worth a no-prize, you're living in the wrong decade! This policy is in effect for all *Marvel* titles whose editors award no-prizes.

### Dear Sword Strokes,

I just received EXCALIBUR #32 and would like to say, "Welcome back, Chris!" It has indeed been a while since we have seen Mr. Claremont in the pilot's chair on this book.

I have been a devoted fan of EXCALIBUR from day one and I admit that lately I have worried about its future. Since the end of the "Cross-Time Caper" the book has largely lacked direction. The artistry has, on occasion, been such as to make it difficult to recognize the characters. And the issues have, for too long now, been too independent of each other and lacked continuity.

I think (and hope) that this is changing. The last couple of issues have captured some of the magic that of late the book has lacked. Issue #32 gives hope that the stories will again start to link up together.

I have been a fan of Mr. Claremont's writing since I read my first X-MEN and hope that he will be giving more attention to EXCALIBUR again. It is a book with a lot of potential and I hope that it is not denied it. I started reading the book for three reasons: Nightcrawler, Kitty and Chris (not necessarily in that order). Later I found that I loved all the characters and that Chris had developed a team of heroes with a somewhat light-hearted way of dealing with evil. Besides that, he gave them problems that are all too common: Brian's drinking, Meggan's indecision about Brian and Kurt, and many others which make the characters as believable as Mr. Jones down the street.

So until Kurt changes his code name to "Fuzzy Elf," Make Mine Marvel!

Chad B. Hale  
2061 Irish Rd.  
Dundee, MI 48131

We think that every team who puts together EXCALIBUR works magic. Chad! Glad to hear you enjoy Chris's stories and characters, though!

### Dear People at EXCALIBUR,

I have been reading EXCALIBUR since the beginning of the series way back in EXCALIBUR Special Edition #1 where they faced The Technet for the first time and decided to band together. I continued buying the series because I saw great potential in it.

It has reached its 32nd issue and I have liked most of the stories I've read, but this issue's story wasn't too much to my liking. We open with yet another version of Excalibur shown in battle against some Nazis in London with four of its members being just teenagers that need to be chastised by their leader, a musclebound woman in a Captain Britain suit (which I hated to see). This later is seen to be the dream product of the Prime Minister's mind, and we see Mesmero behind it for reasons I think we'll see in the next few issues.

I think I like the idea of Kitty attending school in England, but I think a "ladies" school will prove to be tough to handle, and will lack in providing some other things in which Kitty needs to be educated. Does Courtney have some ulterior motive for wanting Kitty to stay there?

Sometime back I saw a version of Opal Luna Saturnyne take Courtney Ross's place. Is she still doing so? With what purpose, might I ask? Also, I'd like to see Excalibur defeat Jamie Braddock for once.

See you around!

Wey West  
Río Piedras, Puerto Rico

Seems lots of you out there would like the Courtney Ross/Opal Luna Saturnyne identity issue cleared up! So, Wey, Courtney Ross and Opal Luna Saturnyne are one and the same... sort of.

### Dear Sword Strokes,

I love "Girl's School From Heck!" I know from experience that it's tough to fit into a new high school and if you're an American in a British school, it'd be much worse. Add to it that this school is the equivalent of a reform school for upper class girls, and it'd be really tough! I think you've come up with a wonderful cast of supporting characters (especially Huntsman and Miss Rutherford) who are just what you'd expect to find there. It ap-

pears Kitty was right when she said that within a term she'd be running things, since the other girls are adopting her plan to save the school. Of course, I'm sure none of your readers ever doubted for a minute who was going to end up in charge. I can't wait to see the "Cheerleading Squad From Heck."

While I certainly want Kitty out of there and back with Excalibur, I hope you don't completely drop St. Searle's. It'd be nice to see it or some of the girls from there show up in the future.

I really liked you showing Kitty practicing her martial arts skills. I don't think you've shown her using them enough when battling villains. Anyone trained by Wolverine and Ogun, who can materialize the instant before striking and then become immaterial the instant after, would be formidable in a fight.

By the way, when is Excalibur going to learn that the X-Men are still alive? It must be impossible for them not to have heard since the situation in Genosha must be making the international news in most countries. I expect there'll be some real celebrating in Excalibur when they learn, considering the strong ties between the two teams!

I'm sure you must have to begin planning an issue months before it sees print, so I trust if you haven't already started on EXCALIBUR #50, you soon will. Please make it a collector's item (I collect them all and the other mutant books anyway).

Now to return to some old themes of mine from previous letters. Make Kitty pick up the SoulSword! Have her take over leadership of Excalibur over the next two or three years!

Brock Hoagland  
S + T TrCl #100 RR3  
Hazen, ND 58545

Well, Brock, hope the current SoulSword story is just what you ordered!

Now on to the question everyone wants to know the answer to! Okay—Phoenix knows that the X-Men are alive. But she hasn't been herself lately, and when Alan Davis returns to the book, you'll find out why!

Relax, though, for over the next few issues you'll see Excalibur and the X-Men reunited... sort of. But watch out! The reactions, especially Kitty's, may not be what you expect!

### Comics Buyer's Guide Fan Awards for 1990

Welcome to the CBF Fan Awards. *Comics Buyer's Guide*, a weekly newspaper devoted to the world of comic books, sponsors these awards to let you, the readers, tell the world which comic books are your favorite. Just fill out the ballot and send it to the address below.

1. Favorite Editor
2. Favorite Writer
3. Favorite Penciller
4. Favorite Inker
5. Favorite Colorist
6. Favorite Letters
7. Favorite Cover Artist
8. Favorite Comic-Book Story
9. Favorite Comic Book
10. Favorite Limited Comic-Book Series
11. Favorite Original Graphic Novel or Album
12. Favorite Reprint Graphic Novel or Album
13. Favorite Character
14. Favorite Publication about Comics

Only material with a 1990 cover date can vote. Votes for projects that did not have a 1990 publication date will not be counted. Copy the ballot and give it to your friends, so they can vote, too. Anyone who casts a comic can vote—but only one person. If you vote more than once, all of your votes will be thrown out. Vote only in the categories you want and ignore any you don't. *Comics Buyer's Guide* is not eligible for Category 14.

Every voter in the United States will get a free copy of *Comics Buyer's Guide* #1934, dated Aug. 2, 1991, unless you already have a current or expired subscription to *CBG*. That issue will carry the list of winners. Votes from other countries will be counted, but we regret that free copies of *CBG* can't be sent out of this country, unless your vote is accompanied by \$2 in U.S. funds to cover handling and shipping. Mail your ballot entries in a single envelope by June 1, 1991, to *Comics Buyer's Guide Fan Awards*, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54934.

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